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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

KITCHEN, et al.

: Expected

: Group Art Unit: 2764

Application No: Unassigned (Rule 53(b):

Continuation of Appl. Serial No. : Expected

09/034,561 filed March 3, 1998).

: Examiner: R. Alvarez

Filed: Concurrently

For: ELECTRONIC BILL PROCESSING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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This preliminary amendment is filed concurrently with the filing of a continuation under 37 USC 1.53(b) of pending Application Serial No. 09/034,561, filed March 3, 1998. to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the title to read --ELECTRONIC BILL PRESENTMENT WITH

BILL CATEGORIZATION --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1.

Please add new claims 34-51 as follows:

A method for electronically presenting bills, comprising: storing a plurality of bills from a plurality of billers for a payor, each biller being associated with one of a plurality of biller categories;